



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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September 29, 1977

Dear Mrs. Goldstein:

Your letter to me of May 26 has been circulated to many senior officials of the United States Government, for you have touched upon an important aspect of our human rights policy which is felt by those inside government much the way you feel it yourself.

On the one hand, we are aware of the indignities suffered by human beings at the merciless hand of authorities. On the other hand, as we examine options for dealing with foreign governments, it sometimes appears that we have limited means - political, economic, or even moral - to persuade that it is in our mutual interest to assure greater respect for the human rights of the governed.

There is a consequential degree of frustration attendant to our work. Today's high speed communications allow the U.S. media to recount instantly crimes perpetrated on humanity. Governments, talking to one another almost on a one-to-one basis, sadly do not reach solutions nearly as rapidly as they and we learn of the problem.

We feel, as you do, that there must be a diminution - indeed, an end - to the suffering you eloquently described. If I suggest the need for patience and

Mrs. Sylvia Goldstein,
Apartment 7,
825 North Second Avenue,
Phoenix, Arizona.

thoughtfulness in trying to conceive of the ways to bring this about, it is more a self-reminder for me than counsel to you. I, too, am deeply troubled by the needless suffering; you have my assurance of an unceasing effort to find effective ways to end it.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Derian

Patricia M. Derian
Assistant Secretary for
Human Rights and
Humanitarian Affairs

cc: The Honorable
John J. Rhodes,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

P.S. - Sorry your original letter never reached me - probably because it was addressed to the White House - though I often get letters sent there. My good Congressman Rhodes sent me a copy & thank you for [unclear]